



A brieft and true Report of S. Anthony Shierlie his iourney in-

to Persia, reported by two Gentlemen who

haue followed him in the same the whole time

of his trauaile, & are lately sent by him

with Letters into Englande.

September 1600.



First, Sir Anthony Shirley de-
parting frō England, landed at
Vlissing, & so went to Colleine,
from thence to Frankesford, then
to Nuremberg, & so to Augustus:
Thence taking his Journey o-
uer the Alpes, he arriued at Ve-
nice, where he staide two Mo-
neths, & from thence (after ho-
norable Entertainment by the

State and Duke of Venice) he tooke shipping and crossing
the straights passed the gulse of Zante, so came to Candie,
then to Rodes, and so alongst the coast of Cipres to Antioch
where he landed, and in five dayes space marched to A-
leppo and staide there six weekes: From thence he passed
with a Caruan to Beere in Arabia. There he & his compa-
ny made Boates, & therein passed downe the Riuier of Eu-
phrates vnto Arabia, where he presented the King with a
very rich gulfst or present. Thence he departed towarde
Babilon, staide there six weekes, and at last met with a
Caruan bounde for Persia, in company whereof, he passed
the desarts of Sameray, being all sandie and very painefull
to passe, and are two Moneths traual from thence to Cas-
bine in Persia: At which place he met with the great So-
phie, by whom he was most honorably receiued and enter-
tainned.

For before his ariuall (vnderstanding of his coming)

30 Sir Anthony Shirley

he sent horses Leagues for him and his Company to trauaile vnto Cashine, the imperiall cittie of Persia, where findeing him on horsebacke (as the manner is) he offered to haue kissed his foot, but the great Sophie refused it, putting his hand betweene Sir Anthony Shirleys Mouth and his fote. Then did his Maiestie presently appoint a very faire and lardge house fit for him and his Company to abide and rest themselves in, and daylie sent all manner of Dyet vnto him (limmiting him a short time whereir his pleasure was to giue him Audience) at which time Sir Anthony resorting vnto the Court, made his Oration in Italian, as followeth.

¶ The true Coppie of Sir ANTHONY SHIRLIES Oration to the Sophie, as followeth.

I Am so assuredly free from any iust imputation, that I will not dzawe into suspicion so noble a cause (as this of my comming with circumstances,) which though they beare the name, yet are in substance nothing but vncertaine Excuses that betoken a fault: whereas truth seeketh no starting-holes, but as a Pilgrim (who followeth the motion of his affections) is come from farre, to yeelde and pay vnto vertue his Zeale and Denotion, and to none other end, if it may please your Maiestie to accept the consecration of his poore Carcas vnto you, which my minde hath caried hither to be made an Offering or hanging vnto in the Temple of your most singular vertues, being brought to this point by the Extremisie of my desires, with expenses of much time, and not without great perill: which though it be no Present in any degree of worth estimable to such a Prince: it may please your Maiestie to remember, that the pitch of an Eagles flight, doth farre surmount

his trauailes,

mount the fluttering of a Flie, and that common base
Spindes are not Capable of such Noble Thoughtes,
as might raise themselves with the true seeking of thiese
your most rare & worthe parts, which haue drawn me to
your Presence: whereof I haue heard men speake with
wonder, & now they giue me cause to think my selfe most
happie. And therefore I humbly beseech your Maiestie,
when you haue read the Historie of the inward thoughtes
of my minde, you will vouchsafe to iudge hereof, not as of
conceiptes hanging of the thyædes of flattering tearmes:
but that you will be pleased to vnderstande through the
conciencie of your owne vertues, that wordes of neuer so
great magnificence, are but the least parte of so high and
excellent deserte, and that the lesse I am able to display
their dignitie with my speeches: the more will I with my
Blonde make proue of my zeale towards them, if at any
time I may be made worthe to be Commaunded by your
Maiestie.

I am a Souldier whose profession is cleane contrarie to
wordes, which shall sooner faile me, then my courage to
greater effect. If the present be acceptable to your Ma-
iestie, I shall esteeme it as a most singuler good happe vnto
me: but much more, if it shall be imployed. For it would
be but a very idle ende and conclusion of so long a trauaile,
full of so many perills, if it were knit vp with wordes on-
ly, and a very poore and slender harvest of so feruent & as-
fection, if it should bring forth onely Buddes or Blossomes,
and no sounde fruite: and finally to make a Subiect for
your Maiesties most excellent vertues, if my deuotion and
obseruances were not sealed with my Blonde, the which
I do humble and freely offer at your Maiesties feete, to be
used and spent, at the least signe and token of your Ma-
iesties pleasure.

Since

Sir Anthonic Shierlie

Since which time, Sir Anthony Shierlie hath received all the samilliar and kinde Entertainment at the great Sophies handes, that coulde possiblie be deuised.

It hapned within a small time after that Sir Anthony Shierlie came thither, the Turke sent a very Principall Bascha to the great Sophie vppon an Imballage, after whose coming, the great Sophie dined one day publike-ly: where he feasted both the Bascha, and Sir Anthony and his Company also, placing them on his right hande, and the Bascha, and his traine on the left.

The great Sophie hath dealt very graciously and liberally with Sir Anthony Shierlie during all the time of his being there: for the King intending a iourney from Bassan vnto Haffsam, required Sir Anthony to goe with him, at which time the great Sophie sent him this giift folowing, (Viz.) Fourtie Horse well furnished, whereof foure Saddles were Plate of Golde, set with pretious Stones, and two of Silber. Fiftene Cammels, and as many Mules for his Carriages. Thre most faire Tents. Eightene Carpets curiously wrought with Golde. 16000. Pistols. withall, Comaunding his Messenger to tell Sir Anthony, that the great Sophie woulde not haue him to accept them as a Present, but as thinges necessarie for his Journey, (being but for eight dayes,) and ever since he hath bestowed many great giiftes vpon him.

Sir Anthony Shierlie is now at Prage, being sent by the Sophie, vpon an imballage to the Emperour, and diuers other Christian Princes.

¶ The



7 The Coppie of Sir Anthony Shirlies letters of Credence from the great Sophie, to the Christian Princes.



There is come unto me in this good time, a principall Gentleman (Sir Anthony Shirlee) of his owne free will out of Europe into these parts: and al you Princes y beleene in Jesus Christ, Know you, that he hath made friendship betwene you & me, which desire we had also heretofore granted, but there was none that came to make the way, and to reioine the valle that was betwene us and you, but onely this Gentleman, who as he came of his owne free will, so also upon his Desire, I have sent with him a chiefe man of mine. The Entertainment which that Principall Gentleman hath had with me, is, that day he whil he hath bin in these partes we have eaten together of one dysh, and drunke of one Cup, like two Brethren.

Therefore, when this Gentleman comes unto you Christian Princes, you shall Credenite him in whatsoever you shall commaunde, or he shall say, as with any other Person, and when this Gentleman shall have passed the Sea, and is entred into the Countrey of the great King of Spaine, (wher we are in friendship as Brethren) all his Commaunds both great and small, shall accompany him, and he shall with all favour, vnto whome he shall becom, there is great Love betwene you, the King of Spaine and me, that we are like two Brethren, I have sent this Gentleman to touch your Countrey, and desire you to fauour his passage without any hindrance.

The Coppie of the free Priviledges ob-
ned by Sir Anthony Shierlie, of the great Sophie, for
all Christiansto trade and trafique into Persia.

I the king

Our absolute Commaundement, will, and plea-
sure is, that our Cuntries and Dominions shall be
from this day open to all Christian People, and to
their Religion; and in such sort, that none of ours
of any Condition shall presume to give them any evil word.
And because of the Amities now signed, with the Princes
that professe Christ: I do give this Patent to all Chri-
stian Marchants, to repaire and trafique in, and through
our Dominions, without disturbances or molestations of
any Duke, Prince, Gouverneur, or Captaine, or any of
whattsoever Office, or qualitie of ours: but that all Mar-
chantise that they shall bring, shall be so privileged, that
none of any Dignitie or Authoritie, shall have power to
looke into it: neither to make inquisition after, or say for
any life or person, the value of one Asper. Neither shall
our religious men, of whattsoever sort they be, hara-
sse them, or speake in matters of their Faith. Neither
shall any of our Justices have power over their persons or
goods, for any cause or act whatsoever.
If by chance, a Marchant shall die, none shall touch a-
ny thing that belongeth unto him: but if the Marchante
have a Companion, he shall have power to take possession
of those goods. But if (by any occasion, he be alone, and
be with his servants: The Governour, or whomever
shall be required by him in his sickness, shall be answer-
able for all such goods unto any of his Nation, which shall
come to require them: But if he die suddenly, and have
neither Companion nor servant, nor time, to recommende
to any, what he would have done: Then the Governour
of that place, shall sende the goods to the next Marchant

The Coppie of S. Anthony Shierlies Letters Patents.

of his Paten, which shall be abiding in any partes of our Dominions.

And those within our kingdomes and Provinces, having power ouer our Tolles and Customs, shall receive nothing, nor dare to speake for any receipt from any christian Marchant.

And if any such Christian shall giue Credite to any of our subiectes (of any Condition whatsoever) he shall by this Pattent of ours, haue authoritie to require any Caddie or Gouernour to do him Justice, and there vpon at the instant of his demaunde, shall cause him to be satisfied.

Neither shall any Gouernour, or Justice of what qualitie soeuer he be, dare take any Rewarde of him, which shall be to his expence: for our Will and pleasure is, that they shall be vsed in all our Dominions to their owne full content, and that our kingdomes and Cuntries shall be free vnto them.

That none shall presume to aske them for what occasion they are here.

And although it hath bin a continuall and vchangeable vse in our Dominions euery yeere, to renue all Patents: This Pattent notwithstanding shall be of full Effect and force for ever without any Renewing, for me and my successors, not to be chaunged.

F F R S:



DOWNFALL OF SHEBNA:

Together with
AN APPLICATION
to the bloudie GOWRIE of
SCOTLAND.

*As it was deliuered in two severall Sermons
of that occasion, in S. MARIES Church
IN OXFORD.*

And now published for a warning to all ill-
affected O. C. V. T. S. : *Et quorum exitus
perhorrebitur, et confusio non
diminuetur.*

By

J. S.

PSAL. 37. 28.

*The Lord knoweth Iudgement, and forsaketh not his Saints. They
shall be preserved for evermore: But the seed of the wicked shall
be cut off.*

LONDON
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